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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

Kouichirou WAKABAYASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2653

Application No.: 09/671,478

Examiner: A. Psitos

Filed: September 27, 2000

Docket No.: 107454

For: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM WITH MAGNETIC MARKS, RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS THEREFOR, AND HEAD POSITIONING METHOD USING DETECTED MAGNETIC LEAKAGE FIELDS FROM THE MAGNETIC MARKS

RECEIVED

FEB 05 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

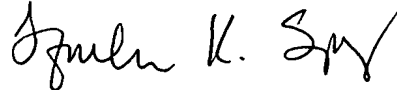
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. 149762 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1 and 2 are attached hereto.

- ☒ 4. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language publication appears in the Appendix attached hereto. See Reference 3.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 1.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 29, 2004

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 107454		APPLICATION NO. 09/671,478	
<div>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</div> <div>Use several sheets if necessary)</div> <div></div>				APPLICANT(S) Kouichirou WAKABAYASHI et al.			
				FILING DATE September 27, 2000		GROUP 2653	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	JP A 2000-353301 w/trans & abstr	12/2000	Japan			
	2	WO00/14733 w/abstr	03/2000	WIPO			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	3	Harada, M., "Distinctive Integration of Technologies for Optical Disk Apparatus and HDD Apparatus," <u>Nikkei Electronics</u> , January 11, 1999 (No. 734), pp. 35-42 (w/Appendix)					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: January 29, 2004